

PHARO CATTLE COMPANY

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CHEYENNE WELLS, COLORADO

PHONE: 800-311-0995



Our customers are the most profitable cow-calf producers in the world.

The Aleutian Cattle...

The Aleutian Islands are a chain of more than 300 small volcanic islands that form a volcanic arc in the northern Pacific Ocean. They occupy an area of 6,821 square miles and extend about 1,200 miles westward from the Alaska Peninsula toward Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula. Some of these islands contain herds of wild feral cattle. The cattle pictured below are on an island called Umnak. With 686 square miles of land area, it is the third largest island in the Aleutian chain.

There are over 3,700 cattle on Umnak. They have been totally on their own for over 80 years. Through "natural" selection, they have adapted quite well to a very harsh, grass-only environment. A few winters have been severe enough that over 25% of the herd died off. Only the strongest and the most adapted are able to survive.

Even though this herd of cattle has a broad genetic base, the cattle have adapted to the point that they are very similar in size and type. In the 1700s, Russia introduced Ayrshire-based cattle to the island. Ayrshire is a spotted dairy breed that originated in Scotland. Hereford and Angus cattle were added in the early 1900s — and Charolais cattle were added in the 1950s. The existing cattle vary considerably in color — but **not** in size and type.



Form follows Function. Not surprisingly, these cattle are small to moderate in height (not weight). They are thick and easy-fleshing. They have excellent calving ease. The harsh environment they live in has selected the phenotype and genotype required for optimal performance on a grass-only diet. Form will always follow function — if man stays out of the way. As far as size and type go, these cattle look remarkably similar to the cattle Pharo Cattle Company is producing and marketing. These cattle fit their environment because no one is there to artificially change the environment with extra feed and care.

~ Kit Pharo